



LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE & FORESTRY
MIKE STRAIN DVM
COMMISSIONER



BOLL WEEVIL ERADICATION COMMISSION MEETING

July 2, 2008

10:00 A.M.

LSU Ag Center - Scott Center
212 Macon Ridge Rd.
Winnsboro, LA 71295

Minutes

**Agricultural &
Environmental
Sciences**

P.O. Box 3596
Baton Rouge,
LA 70821
(225) 925-9770
Fax: 925-3760

**Agro-Consumer
Services**

P.O. Box 3098
Baton Rouge,
LA 70821
(225) 922-1341
Fax: 923-4877

**Animal Health
Services**

P.O. Box 1951
Baton Rouge,
LA 70821
(225) 925-3962
Fax: 925-4103

Forestry

P.O. Box 1628
Baton Rouge,
LA 70821
(225) 925-4500
Fax: 922-1356

**Management
& Finance**

P.O. Box 3481
Baton Rouge,
LA 70821
(225) 922-1255
Fax: 925-6012

Marketing

P.O. Box 3334
Baton Rouge,
LA 70821
(225) 922-1277
Fax: 922-1289

**Soil & Water
Conservation**

P.O. Box 3554
Baton Rouge,
LA 70821
(225) 922-1269
Fax: 922-2577

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Logan at 10:05 A.M.

ROLL CALL

The roll was called by Eva Wales.

Members present: Fred Bass, representing Commissioner Strain; Dr. Roger Leonard, representing Chancellor Richardson; Danny Logan; Jack Dailey; Boyd Holley; George Lacour and Dan Turner
Members absent: none

Others present: Travis Walker, Boll Weevil Eradication Commission alternate member; Dr. Ralph Bagwell, LSU Ag Center; Dr. Bob Hutchinson, LSU Ag Center; Dr. Sandy Stewart, LSU Ag Center; LDAF employees Todd Parker, Marc Bordelon, Craig Roussel, Becky Wilkerson, Kurt Moreau, John Dumas, Nolan Adcock, Gene Edmondson, Rick Sibley, Nathan Oliver, Eva Wales; Richard Myers, Cheminova Inc.; and Jess Barr, Louisiana Cotton Producers.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion: Mr. Holley made a motion to approve the minutes from the March 23, 2008 meeting. This motion was seconded by Mr. Dailey and passed unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS

Mr. Bordelon stated that Jamar Frazier, Case #07BW08, deceased April 4, 2008 and asked the Commission to review the case as follows: 45 stalk destruction violations for 2006 – total fine, \$33,750 – payable fine, \$700 – paid to date, \$200 – balance, \$500.

Motion: Mr. Lacour made a motion to dismiss the case with no action to collect the balance. This motion was seconded by Mr. Dailey and passed unanimously.

REPORT FROM COMMISSIONER STRAIN

Mr. Bass expressed his pleasure for the opportunity of being with the Commission and representing Commissioner Strain. Mr. Parker briefly discussed the financial disclosure law recently passed by the Legislature. Discussion followed. Several members asked if the law could be changed so Boll Weevil Eradication Commission members would act only in an advisory capacity since all actions of the Commission must be approved by the Commissioner. Further discussion followed. Mr. Parker gave a report on program funding.

UPDATE FROM THE DIRECTOR

Mr. Bordelon reported that two field unit supervisors resigned in the Red River Zone; they will not be replaced. He called attention to a report of cotton acreage (copy on file) and stated that we have mapped 306,672 acres (9% reduction compared to 337,383 acres mapped in 2007). He reported that the Farm Service Agency has moved final certification to August 15; producers will have until then to pay assessments. He stated that we have collected \$107,000 to date.

Mr. Bordelon called attention to graphs comparing weevil captures in 2007 and 2008 and acres sprayed during the same time period (copies on file). He noted the dramatic increase in acres sprayed this year - 225,000 acres to date compared to 49,000 for the same period last year. He stated that we are finishing pinhead square applications on the majority of fields, but are just beginning on cotton planted behind wheat. He reported that the Malathion rate was increased last week from 12 oz/acre to 16 oz/acre. The rate will remain at 16 oz through the end of the season, including any pinhead square applications that haven't been made.

Mr. Bordelon reported that approximately 50% of the weevils in the Winnsboro Unit were caught on the experiment station. Discussion followed. Dr. Leonard stated that weevils overwintered on the station from an infestation in a small plot of biotech cotton near the station. The cotton was not reported and went untreated for most of the year. He added that aggressive trapping and spraying is working well. Discussion followed on how to prevent this from happening in the future. Mr. Roussel stated that he will see if this can be addressed on the biotech application form. Further discussion followed. It was the consensus of the Commission that some action should be taken against the producer. Mr. Roussel stated that we will gather information and give a report to the Commission.

Discussion followed including access for trap placement in cotton planted row to row with other crops, height and location of traps to accommodate producers, guidelines for ornamental cotton, and Arkansas trapping.

TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE (TAC) REPORT

Dr. Bagwell reported that the TAC met on March 28, 2008 and developed goals and recommendations for northeast Louisiana (copy on file). He presented these to the Commission, as well as copies of recommendations from the December 12, 2005 TAC meeting. These were reviewed and discussed.

ADDITIONAL BUSINESS

Jack Dailey expressed appreciation for Commissioner Strain's commitment to the program.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 12:10 P.M.